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Viewing cable 05SANJOSE2051, SECURITY OFFICIALS' CONFIDENCE GROWING AS CAFTA-DR

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the structure of a cable as well as how to discuss them with others. See also the FAQs

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables (browse by origin to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this WikiSource article as reference.

Discussing cables

Reference ID

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at theparagraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags #cablegate and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. #05SANJOSE2051.

Classification

Origin

<u>05SANJOSE2051</u> <u>2005-09-01 20:26</u> <u>2011-08-30 01:44</u> <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> <u>Embassy San Jose</u> Appears in these articles: http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/NotasDestacadas/Investigacion2697430.aspx http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/NotaPrincipal/Investigacion2697496.aspx http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/NotasSecundarias/Investigacion2697489.aspx http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/NotasSecundarias/Investigacion2697532.aspx http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/NotasSecundarias/Investigacion2697535.aspx

http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/NotasSecundarias/Investigacion2701964.aspx http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-03/Investigacion/Relacionados/Investigacion2701965.aspx

Released

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 002051

Created

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SIPDIS
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WHA/CEN FOR MKOPOLOW WHA/EPSC FOR KURS, LGUMBINER EB FOR WCRAFT, BLAMPRON E FOR DEDWARDS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/30/2015 TAGS: ETRD ECON PREL SOCI CS
SUBJECT: SECURITY OFFICIALS' CONFIDENCE GROWING AS CAFTA-DR

DEBATE LOOMS

REF: A. SAN JOSE 2038

¶B. SAN JOSE 2037

Classified By: CDA Russell L. Frisbie for reasons 1.4 (b&d).

(C) During an official call August 31 on President Pacheco by General Craddock of U.S. Southern Command, the head of Costa Rica's national police said that as a result of growing public support for the U.S.-Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR), police officials are less worried about their ability to respond to threats of violent street protests and a general strike. Walter Navarro, head of Costa Rica's "Fuerza Publica" or national police, said that recent public opinion polls have shown a decided shift in favor of the free trade agreement. (Note: While ref B documents a real shift in public opinion over past nine months, there has been little change recently.)

12. (C) According to Navarro, the shift has caused union leaders and others who have been planning and threatening disturbances if the President sends the agreement to the

Assembly for ratification to reconsider their strategy. As a result, Navarro is increasingly confident that security officials can maintain order and preserve critical infrastructure in the face of what he expects will be smaller and shorter demonstrations.

- 13. (C) Interestingly, Pacheco did not turn to his Minister of Public Security, Rogelio Ramos, who was present at the meeting, for confirmation of this assessment. Ramos is rumored to have recently threatened to resign his post if Pacheco submits CAFTA-DR for ratification—supposedly due to his belief that Costa Rican security forces would be incapable of enforcing and maintaining order in the face of a violent or sustained general strike.
- 14. (C) Comment: This is the latest in a string of generally positive developments related to CAFTA-DR (reftels). If Pacheco accepts Navarro's assessment as accurate, as he appears to have done, this would reduce one of the primary obstacles to Costa Rican ratification of the free trade agreement--Pacheco's fear of a violent backlash. However, Minister Ramos remains the most influential voice on security matters, and Pacheco told General Craddock as the meeting ended that he would send the agreement for ratification "in due time." FRISBIE